

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 204740
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /058 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:DHESTER:LLC
APPROVED BY NEA:HHS SAUNDERS
AF:RMOOSE

-----071595 130238Z /15

R 120206Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

S E C R E T STATE 204740

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM SAUNDERS

E.O. 11652' GDS

TAGS: PEPR AG

SUBJECT: EMBASSY CONTACT WITH POLISARIO

REFS: (A) STATE 202026, (B) ALGIERS 2308, (C) STATE
193164

1. I APPRECIATED YOUR RECENT MESSAGE REGARDING YOUR VIEWS
ON ESTABLISHING CONTACT WITH THE POLISARIO. I CONCUR,
HOWEVER, IN NICK'S REPLY (REF A). AS MAURITANIA SEEKS WAY
OUT OF ITS INVOLVEMENT IN WESTERN SAHARA CONFLICT AND
SIGNS EMERGE FROM EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN CAPITALS OF
TENTATIVE EFFORTS TO NEGOTIATE END TO CONFLICT, POLISARIO
IS NATURALLY ATTEMPTING TO ASSURE THAT ITS POSITION IS
HEARD IF NOT RESERVED AT BARGAINING TABLE. CHANGE IN
STANDING PROHIBITION OF OFFICIAL USG CONTACTS WITH
POLISARIO BEYOND CONSULAR MATTERS, AS MOST RECENTLY STATED
IN REF C, WOULD COINCIDE WITH POLISARIO OBJECTIVES AT

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PAGE 02 STATE 204740

EXPENSE OF UNDERMINING OUR OWN CAREFULLY-NURTURED POLICY
OF NEUTRALITY. IT ALSO WOULD FURTHER ALIENATE MOROCCANS,
WHO MAY ALREADY BE FEELING PRESSURE FOR UNWELCOME
CONCESSIONS. WE FEEL RECEIVING POLISARIO REPRESENTATIVES,
EVEN FOR LIMITED PURPOSE OF LISTENING TO PRESENTATION OF

THEIR POSITION, COULD BE MISCONSTRUED BY THEM AND WOULD

COST US MORE IN TERMS OF OUR RELATIONS WITH MOROCCO THAN
WE WOULD GAIN IN TERMS OF INFORMATION. THEREFORE DESPITE
LOCAL PRESSURES YOU SHOULD CONTINUE OUR POLICY OF
AVOIDING SUBSTANTIVE CONTACTS WITH POLISARIO. CHRISTOPHER

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PAGE 01 STATE 204740
ORIGIN IO-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

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DRAFTED BY:IO/UNP:SESCUDERO

APPROVED BY:IO/SA:SESCUDERO

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O 242305Z AUG 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 9899

S E C R E T STATE 204740

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 204740 ACTION ALGIERS DATED AUG 12:

QTE: S E C R E T STATE 204740

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ORIGINAL DISTRIBUTION: NEA/ISO,AF,SSBL,INTE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 12 aug 1978
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EMBASSY CONTACT WITH POLISARIO
TAGS: PEPR, PINS, PINR, AG, POLISARIO, PLO
To: ALGIERS
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20 Mar 2014
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